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IN THE COURT OF APPEAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FIRST APPELLATE DISTRICT

DIVISION ONE

In re JULIAN A., a Person Coming Under
the Juvenile Court Law.

THE PEOPLE,

Plaintiff and Respondent,

v.

JULIAN A.,

Defendant and Appellant.

A107741

(San Francisco County
Super. Ct. No. JW04-6027)

Julian A., a minor, appeals after his commitment to an out-of-home placement. Minor's counsel has filed an opening brief that raises no issues and asks this court for an independent review under *People v. Wende* (1979) 25 Cal.3d 436. We have reviewed the record on appeal and find there are no meritorious issues to be argued or briefed.

Julian A., born in 1986, was already a ward of the court and in home custody when he and some of his friends threatened to harm three other young persons to whom they had offered a ride. They then forcibly took a wallet and backpack. Minor was the driver of the car and allegedly tried to run down one of the victims after he fled from the car.

Minor admitted to violations of Penal Code section 524, extortion of money, and Penal Code section 211/212.5, subdivision (c), second degree robbery. Other serious charges were dismissed.

The court held an extensive dispositional hearing. Based on minor's failure to comply with previous orders, his progressive failure in school, past marijuana usage, and other ongoing negative behavior, the probation officer recommended commitment to the Log Cabin Ranch School. Family and friends presented a plan for specialized education, participation in religious activities, and concerted family supervision. Minor's family wanted him returned to his home under a rigorous plan. The court reviewed letters of support from the community. The court carefully considered all of the information and recommendations, noted minor's poor past performance, and ordered out-of-home placement in a program that hopefully would lead to his return to his home. The court explained that reasonable efforts had been made to eliminate the need for removal from his home, but minor had not availed himself of past opportunities. There was no abuse of discretion.

Competent counsel represented Julian A. at all stages of the proceedings. There were no errors in the jurisdictional or dispositional phases of the proceedings.

The judgment is affirmed.

Marchiano, P.J.

We concur:

Swager, J.

Margulies, J.